

REMARKS

Claims 2-12 and 14-34 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 7, 15 and 23 are amended, claims 1 and 13 are cancelled, and the specification and Fig. 8 are amended. No new matter is added by the above amendments.

The amendment to the specification corrects a typographical error appearing on page 24.

The Office Action objects to Fig. 8. Fig. 8 has been amended as requested in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objection to Fig. 8 is requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 2-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 18-22 and 25-34. Applicants also note with appreciation the identification of allowable subject matter in claims 7, 9, 11 and 15-17. By the above amendments, claims 7 and 15 have been rewritten in independent form. In addition, claim 23 has been amended to depend from claim 7, rather than claim 1.

Claims 1 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,835,217 to Medeck. Claims 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Medeck. These rejections are moot by the above amendments.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/ccs

Attachments:

Replacement Drawing Sheet (Fig. 8)
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 6, 2005

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 8 and replaces the original sheet with Fig. 8.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet